

REMARKS

With entry of this amendment, claims 10-16 and 20, 22 and 24-26 are pending. Claims 10-16, 22 and 24 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 21 and 23 have been canceled. Claims 20 and 22 have been amended, and new claims 25 and 26 have been added, depending from claim 22. Claim 20 has been reworded as helpfully suggested by the Examiner. Claim 22 has been amended to include active method steps. Support for the amendments to claim 22 and for new claims 25 and 26 can be found in the originally filed claims and throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is requested.

The Examiner indicated that newly entered claims 21-24 are directed to an invention that is distinct from the elected group, and has withdrawn the claims from consideration. However, the Examiner stated that the claims would be subject to rejoinder upon allowance of the composition claim (claim 20) if the requirements for rejoinder were met, and if the claims were rewritten to include active method steps. Claim 22 has been amended to depend from claim 20, and to include active method steps. It is respectfully requested that if claim 20 is found to be allowable that claims 22 and 24, and new claims 25-26 be rejoined.

The Examiner objected to claim 20 because he considered the phraseology to be awkward. The claim has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The claim has been amended to recite "inactivation" in place of "disruption". It is believed that the claim is free of the rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are respectfully requested.

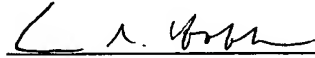
Claim 20 was rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by Henneke et al. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

It is the Examiner's position that Henneke et al. teaches a TLR knockout mouse, and thus anticipates the instant claims. It is noted that the inventor of this application is an author on Henneke et al. Filed herewith is a Rule 132 Declaration establishing that the work related to the presently claimed invention that is described in Henneke et al. is the work of the present inventor, and not the work of another. Accordingly, the Henneke et al. reference is not valid prior art under 35 USC § 102(a). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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